Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-14 (**Canceled**)

15. (**Currently Amended**) A semiconductor laser driving device comprising:

a semiconductor laser for emitting light;

a photodetecting element for receiving a part of the light emitted from the semiconductor laser and converting the part of light into an electric signal corresponding to a light amount;

a laser driving circuit for inputting a driving signal into the semiconductor laser in such a manner that an average value of the electric signal coincides with a given target value;

a high-frequency superimposing circuit for superimposing a high-frequency signal over the driving signal; and

a high-frequency superimposing control section for controlling an amplitude of the high-frequency signal,

wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section controls is operable to control the amplitude in such a manner that a peak-to-average ratio that is a ratio of a peak value of the electric signal with respect to the average value of the electric signal does not increase above a given first reference value.

16. (**Canceled**)

17. (**Currently Amended**) A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, further comprising a peak detecting circuit for receiving the electric signal from the photodetecting element and for detecting the peak value of the electric signal,

wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section calculates is operable to calculate the peak-to-average ratio based on the peak value detected by the peak detecting circuit.

18. (**Currently Amended**) A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, further comprising:

a temperature sensor for measuring a temperature of the semiconductor laser; and

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a storing section for storing data indicative of a relationship of the average value, the temperature, the amplitude, and the peak-to-average ratio,

wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section ~~reads~~ is operable to read out the data from the storing ~~section, so as to~~ section and control the amplitude based on the data, the average value, and the temperature.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section ~~controls~~ is operable to control the amplitude ~~in~~ such ~~a manner~~ that the amplitude decreases as the temperature of the semiconductor laser increases.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section ~~controls~~ is operable to control the amplitude ~~in~~ such ~~a manner~~ that, the amplitude decreases as the average value ~~increases~~ increases, if the average value is less than a ~~given~~ threshold value, ~~whereas~~ and the amplitude increases as the average value ~~increases~~ increases, if the average value is larger than the threshold value.

21. **(Canceled)**

22. **(Currently Amended)** A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, wherein the high-frequency superimposing control section comprises a data acquiring section for acquiring the first reference value by reading out, from ~~the~~ an optical recording medium from which information is to be reproduced by use of the emitted light and on which an allowance value of ~~the~~ a peak value of the emitted light is recorded, the recorded allowance value.

Claims 23 and 24 **(Canceled)**

25. **(Currently Amended)** A semiconductor laser driving device according to claim 15, wherein the semiconductor laser is operable to emit the light having a wavelength of ~~the light emitted from the semiconductor laser is~~ 390nm< λ <420nm.

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26. **(Previously Presented)** An optical head device comprising the semiconductor laser driving device of claim 15.

27. **(Previously Presented)** An optical information processing device comprising the optical head device of claim 26.

28. **(Currently Amended)** An optical recording medium from which information is to be reproduced by the semiconductor laser driving device of claim 22 and which ~~records~~ has the allowance value recorded thereon.